

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 DRC-01 /154 W

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R 271200Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0059

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: LIBERATION MOVEMENTS REACT TO PORTUGUESE COUP

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. APRIL 26 PRESS REPORTS ON INITIAL
LREACTION OF LIBERATION MOVEMENT REPS LUSAKA TO LISBON
COUP REFLECT CAUTIOUS, HOPEFUL WAIT AND SEE ATTITUDE.

2. COREMO SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION FAUSTINO KAMBEU
SAID IT WAS TOO EARLY TO UNDERSTAND PROPERLY WHAT HAD
HAPPENED IN PORTUGAL, BUT HE HOPED COUP WAS FIRST STEP
TOWARDS DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT. WILL WAIT TO JUDGE NEW
REGIME UNTIL ITS VIEWS ON COLONIAL POLICY KNOWN. NOTING
THAT WHITES IN MOZAMBIQUE INTERESTED IN SELF GOVERNMENT,
KAMBEU SAID THEY WANT SORT OF FEDERATION ADVOCATED BY
SPINOLA. STATED UDI BY WHITES WOULD MAKE SITUATIO WORSE.
WERE COREMO TO BE CALLED TO CONFERENCE TABLE BY NEW GOVERN-
MENT, KAMBEU SAID IT WOULD NOT AGREE CONFER UNLESS
IT MEANT TOTAL INDEPENDENCE.

3. MPLA SPOKESMAN SAID IT FORTUNATE HIGH-RANKING
PORTUGUESE SUCH AS SPINOLA HAD SEEN LIGHT ABOUT
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CONTINUING WAR. HOWEVER, HE REJECTED IDEA OF

FEDERATION WITH PORTUGAL AS "SAME TYPE OF COLONIALISM
WE HAVE BEEN FIGHTING."

4. SWAPO PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA REPORTEDLY STATED
HE BELIEVE COUP LEADERS WOULD PUT END TO DEGRADATION
OF AFRICAN MAJORITY IN PORTUGUESE COLONIES. SOUTH
AFRICAN ANC SECRETARY GENERAL ALFRED NZO SAID COUP
MAY NOT SOLVE COLONIAL PROBLEM AND MIGHT TURN OUT
TO BE REACTIONARY COUP. ZAPU REP P ZLEMON MAKONESE
WARNED NEW REGIME'S POLICIES MAY ONLY BE DIRECTED AT
COMPROMISING AND "SHOCK-ABSORBING" FREEDOM FIGHTERS
REVOLUTIONARY SPIRIT.

5. FRELIMO REP DECLINED COMMENT. END UNCLASSIFIED.

6. BEGIN LOU. IN SUBSEQUENT COMMENT TO EMBOFF
NUJOMA OF SWAPO LESS CATEGORICAL THAN REPORTED
BY PRESS. SAID PICTURE STILL TOO UNCLEAR TO
DRAW ANY CONCLUSIONS WITH CONFIDENCE. SEEMED
REASONABLY OPTIMISTIC, HOWEVER. ON APRIL 25 BEFORE
NEWS OF COUP BROK, COREMO PRESIDENT PAUL GUMANE TOLD
EMBOFF HE DID NOT RULE OUT SOME FORM OF ASSOCIATION
WITH PORTUGAL BECAUSE OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURA TIES.
GUMANE SAID COOPERATION WITH FRELIMO IN INDEPENDENT
MOZAMBICAN GOVERNMENT OUT OF QUESTION. END LOU.
WILKOWSKI

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